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**THE JOHN BROWN LETTERS.**

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FOUND IN THE VIRGINIA STATE LIBRARY IN 1901.

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FREDERICK BROWN TO JOHN BROWN.

[Envelope] [MS.] Capt. John Brown, Charlestown, Virginia, Care of his Custodian.

[Endorsed]: Fred. Brown.

Pecatonica, Ill., November 4th, 1859.

Dear Uncle:

It is with sorrow I have heard of the affair at Harper's Ferry, resulting in the death of two of your sons and others, the capture and imprisonment of yourself and some of your associates. This event has created a profound sensation and awakened the attention of the whole country. No recent event with so few engaged in the promotion of it, has so generally arrested the attention of all people throughout the United States.

Although I am and have been opposed to interference with slavery in the states where it exists, either by action upon the part of Congress or by individuals outside of the slave States, yet nevertheless your boldness and independence of character, your self reliance and zeal for oppressed and afflicted humanity has won my admiration and cannot fail to excite the admiration of all those who love the welfare, the happiness and the progress of the whole human race. I watched at the time and read with the deepest interest the history of all your acts and others for the promotion of liberty in the Territory of Kansas. It cannot be denied but what the hero of Osawatimie acted a very prominent, vallient and important part in making Kansas in the future a free and prosperous State of this Confederacy. Your deeds in that quarter of the world are a part of the history of the times and particularly of the future State of Kansas. I am told by many persons who have been in Kansas during the past summer that your memory is cherished in the highest respect by the people of that Territory. Although I cannot approve of your acts of armed intervention in behalf of the slaves at Harper's

Ferry, but since your arrest for that cause, your conduct has been such, for instance, your coolness and courage in the presence of the power and authority of the State of Virginia, the simple, truthful, courageous and wise answers to all inquiries put to you by men of the highest official position in that State, together with the various remarks made by you in the presence of that Tribunal and before that Court which has condemned you to die the death of a felon, has excited the admiration of the whole country and created a powerful reaction of public sentiment in your favor. I give it as my opinion only, that it will be the most foolish act the authority of the Commonwealth of Virginia ever permitted to be done within her borders, viz: to execute you upon the gallows. Why Sir, the very act of execution and for such a cause and after the most speedy trial of modern times and under such peculiar circumstances would *ipso facto* create you a Martyr and enroll your name among the noble dead who have died for the cause of religion, for the cause of liberty, and for the welfare of the human race. If it should be your fate to die in accordance with the sentence of that Court, in the land where the Declaration of Independence had its origin, the sentiments of which you have always cherished, I confess to you I shall feel no concern but what you will die as you have lived, like a man and a hero. I extend to you and your unhappy associates my most cordial sympathy.

With great respect, your nephew,

FREDERICK BROWN.

To Capt. John Brown.

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AUNT LIZY TO JOHN BROWN.

[Envelope] [MS.] John Brown, Charleston, Va.

[Endorsed]: Anonymous Nonsense.

Much Esteemed Friend, John Brown:

I feel anxious to take thee by the hand and bid thee a final farewell but distance prevents my doing so at present. We feel for and sympathize with thee in thy affliction, though the days are few until thee will lay down thy life and dye a martyr to the cause of Freedom.

Thy last act appears short sighted to many but 'all has been

laying still for years trying to do away slavery on peaceable terms, but all in vain, they might just as well try to do away the Devil at once without an Insurrection and even that would be impossible, for the whole south would be at arms as he is the only friend they have. Be of good cheer, thee has loosened the wheel on its axel and it is now ready for action, and if Governor Wise does not loose thy chains, undo the heavy burdens and let the oppressed go free he will see more John Brown in Virginia before long than he could erect galows for in a life time.

I call that mind free which is not imprisoned in its-self or in a sect, which recognizes in all human beings the image of God, and the right of his children, which delights in virtue and sympathises with the sufferings of the poor downtrodden slave. And happy is that Soul that offers its-self up a willing victim to the cause of freedom. Can there be a single one that glances his eye on this page that does not revolt at the existence of slavery. We are going a head here, the spirit of liberty has taken new life since the Harper Ferry insurrection, and be assured that no man will be found here long that will have the hardihood to be found against liberty and right. Yes, the spirit of oppression fraud and cruelty will soon seek some dark corner of the earth where neither sun, moon nor stars shall behold it, this is only a commencing of insurrections at the South, it will yet make the name of John Brown a terror to the slaveholding aristocracy, and a word of cheer and presage to the cause of constitutional liberty, we hope that the liberty party will push on until Virginia and all the other states of the confederacy shall be free from the curse of slavery, redeemed, regenerated and disenthralled by the genus of universal Emancipation.

God hasten the day of our deliverence.

The ðpponents of human liberty cannot dwell in an atmosphere like ours much longer, their dark spirits are better fitted for a climate where eternal frosts lock all nature in her chilling arms, then I say rejoice in the good cause, nothing daunted, and victory will be soon won, for God has no attribute that can side with wrong.

AUNT LIZY.

Rejoice.

P. C. W. TO JOHN BROWN.

[Envelope] [MS.] Old Ossawattomie John Brown, Harper's Ferry. [Forwarded] Charlestown, Virginia.

[Endorsed]: Anonymous, improper,—don't deliver.

Louisville, Ky., Oct. 31st, 1859.

Old Ossawattomie John Brown, Harper's Ferry, Va.

Sir,—You are now about to embark in the very unenviable occupation of *hemp-pulling*; but when your mind reverts to the many poor families in Kansas whom you robbed of the last mouthful of provisions, and then rode off exultingly on their only horse, driving their only cow before you: when your mind reverts to the innocent blood shed at your hands in Kansas and Virginia; what can you say but that you deserve death in its most horrid form. Pray fervently to the Lord to forgive your sins instead of soliciting Northern Counsel to defend your forlorn hopes.

Very Truly,

P. C. W..

formerly a Pro Slavery man in Kansas Territory.

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A. D. STEVENS TO HIS UNCLE.

Charlestown, Va., Dec. 11th, '59.

Uncle James,

It is under rather adverse circumstances, that I sit down to write you.

I hope you do not think that I hav forgotten you nor Aunt neather. I suppose you hav seen by the papers about the Harper's Ferry affair, & that I and sevéral more, are about as they say to *dance on nothing*. It is rather a queer way to leave this world, but If a person must di, because he *loves man & justice* why, I think it becums one of the best of deaths.

Death is something we all must meet, and *I rather di for trying to doo good, than evil*.

I received six wounds at the Ferry, and the Doc's thought at one time that I would not live, I under went a grat deal of hard pain, but am quite well now, and very cherfull.

It is true! I should like to live a few years yet, here in this

world, but if my time comes now, I shall meet it cheerfully, and it will not be meny years, untill I shall have the pleasure of seeing you all in the other world. The *old man* pased off in good FAITH, and the rest of the men are I think quite cheerfull and happy. There time is close at hand, And man gets to the end of his *chain when he takes life*, that is, *it's all he can doo*. It is a long road that never turn's they say.

I think now, from what I have seen, that the way we ware trying to doo away with Slavory, is not the best way, but I had to get this experiance before I knew it. I think the ruling power of the univirse is working in all these things, and we shall get our JUST *reward*. There is a feeling in my bosom for the op-presed, and I cannot help it, & I am very thankfull for it.

If you hav time, it would give me pleasure to have an answer to this. Give my love to your wife & boy's & all kind friend's. Your's, for the right,

A. D. STEVENS.

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A RESCUE PLAN TOLD IN CIPHER.

[Envelope] [MS.] Capt. Ossawattomie Brown, Harper's Ferry, Va.

[Forwarded] Charlestown.

[Endorsed]: In cipher. Villainous.

13.2.3.18.12.9.14.

4.5.1.18. 2.

23.5. 1.18.5. 1.12.12. 18.9.7.8 20. 2.15.21. 13.1.25.

12.15.15.k 6.15.18. 21.19. 15.14.5. 1.25. 15.14.5. 3.15.13.-

13.5.14.3.5.9.14 7. 20.15.-4.1.25.

6.5.9.7.14. 6.1.14.1.20.9.3.9.19.13. 1.19. 13.21.3.8. 1.19.

16.15.19.19.9.1.2.12.5. 11.5.5.16. 9.14. 7.15.15.4. 19.16.9.18.-

9.20.19. 20.9.12.12. 23.5. 1.18.18.9.22.5.

3.15.13.15.

4.15.14.20. 2.5. 1.12.1.18.13.5.4.

A 1, B 2, C 3, D 4, E 5, F 6, G 7, H 8, I 9, J 10, K 11, L 12, M 13, N 14, O 15, P 16, Q 17, R 18, S 19, T 20, U 21, V 22, W 23, X 24, Y 25, Z 26.

[Translation.]

Oberlin.

Dear B.,

We are all right you may look for us, one by one commencing to-day.

Feign fanaticism as much as possible, keep in good spirits till we arrive. COMO.

Don't be alarmed.

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JACOB HOWE, JR., TO JOHN BROWN.

[Envelope] [MS.] Capt. John Brown (States' Prisoner), Charlestown, Va.

[Endorsed]: Jacob Howe. Idle stuff, I think. Doubtful.

Balto., Nov. 28th, 1859.

Dear Friend John,

Enclosed you will find \$2 which you can cheerfully have—for your Service during the Late War at Harper's ferry. Friend John little did I think you would come to what you have, and you have my sympathies you have one who feels for you I pray you do not have any fear, you will be rescued if we die for it.

I am glad to see you are a fearless man intend to carry out what you begun but I am sorry to say you did not succeed dear John I feel sorry for you and your companions could I only see you I would tell you something that would astonish you.

I now bid you good bye untill we meet again I remain a Native Northerner (although i am in the south).

JACOB HOWE, JR.

if there is any thing I can do for you, just name it & it will be done.

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JAMES Q. LESTER TO JOHN BROWN.

[Envelope] [MS.] Capt. John Brown, Charlestown Jail, Charlestown, Jefferson County, Virginia, U. S.

[Endorsed]: James Q. Lester, Hartford, Conn. Autograph.

Hartford, Nov. 7th, 1859.

Capt. John Brown:

Dear Sir,—I have a collection of Autographs, and would

consider it a great honor to be permitted to place YOURS among them.

My best wishes are with you and I most sincerely hope that you will again be FREE.

Hoping that you will grant my favor, I remain,

Very truly yours,

JAMES Q. LESTER.

Address James Q. Lester,  
Care Box 783, Hartford, Conn.

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B. TO JOHN BROWN.

[Envelope] [MS.] Capt. John Brown, Charlestown Jail, Va.

[Endorsed]: Anonymous Rescue, rather bold, consider.

Salem, O., Nov. 24th, 59.

Capt. John Brown:

Dear Friend,—I write you these few lines to inform you that there are large Companies of men forming in all the Northern States which will in due time march to your rescue.

Hope on, keep in good Spirits, you *Shall* be rescued.

Yours in haste, B——.

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T. A. B. TO GOVERNOR WISE.

[Endorsed]: T. A. B., Lanesville, to be considered, Colt's revolvers.

Lanesville, Ohio, Nov. 23rd, 59.

Hon. H. A. Wise:

Dear Sir,—Think not Strange, yet it is even so, on Last night I saw at the house of a *Frend*, about 30 miles southeast of this, between 30 & 36 men, all armed with Colts Six Shooters & a Species of home made Bowie knife, well calculated to do Execution, being very much fatigued I retired very early, but I learned enough by over hearing to ascertain that about 300 men of their Stamp will cross the Ohio river near Cistersville on the night of the 26th of this month, keep to the Woods as much as possible, & on the night of the 1st of December make a decent on Charlestown. They are generally young & desperate men judging from those I saw, but headed by an old Hunter of N.



W. Virginia, who is well acquainted with every Hundred acres of Land from Central O. to Winchester, Va.

do not think this a Hoax as I do not give my name. I am a poor Mechanick struggling with poverty & we have men here who would ruin my business.

Truly,

T. A. B.

One Hard Ware firm in our Town has Rec'd 500 Colts *revolvers* & by Northern Express, & they are gone.

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HARRISBURG TO C. B. HARDING, ESQ.

[Envelope] C. B. Harding, Esqr., Charlestown, Jefferson Co., Va.

[Endorsed]: Anonymous, Harrisburg, Warning.

Harrisburg, Pa., Nov. 23rd, 1859.

C. B. Harding, Esqr.,

Sir,—I wish to inform you that a force of armed men intend leaving here so as to arrive at Charlestown by the day of execution of Brown to rescue him if such can be done, they are armed with Colts revolvers and will make a desperate attempt. Their exact number I have not been able to learn but think it is pretty large. Their plan is to fire Charlestown in several places and amid the confusion that ensues will run off Brown. I write this to put you upon your guard. Look well to your safety for they will not spare life.

Yours,

HARRISBURG.

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UNION CO. TO JOHN BROWN.

[Envelope] [MS.] John Brown, Esq., Charleston, Va.  
Postmarked: Hartford, Ct.

[Endorsed]: Anonymous rescue.

Keep up your courage. We'll take care of you.

Yours,

UNION CO.

## THOS. T. HEATH TO JOHN BROWN.

[Envelope] [MS.] Captain John Brown, Charlestown, Jefferson County, Va.

[Endorsed]: Thos. T. Heath. Sympathy.

Cincinnati, Nov'b'r 26th, 1859.

Captain John Brown, Charlestown Jail, Va.

Honored Sire,—I have never met you—yet community of interest in freedom's cause makes us fellow-soldiers—and the ties of humanity constitute us brethren.

You doubtless see the day approaching and are prepared—for the Everlasting Arms are around and underneath you!

My Senior friend, you have fought a good fight—kept the faith—probably soon will have finished your course—and will in *that* day receive the crown from The Lord, *The Righteous Judge*—Keep your heart right!

A thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands, believe the red right arm of Jah Jehovah has been made bare—that He hath worked in and through *you*—and we *know* it will be well!

Already, Sire, we catch the fore-running murmur of the great shout which on the morrow shall burst from a freed world! God's word is sure! And His best blessing already *yours*,—for you shall live in the hearts of your fellow men. And if you go hence it shall be up the Heavens in a chariot, and ten thousand new-fired sons of freedom shall catch your staff and mantle!

To your family too you leave glory as an heritage—And a host of warm hearts shall build and be their “Home.”—Such have never been forsaken—never will be.

Sire, the sword of the spirit which you have unsheathed—that flaming blade shall flash and turn every way until the end! In Heaven you will experience much joy over the deeds done in the flesh—over *victory*!

In spirit only we know each other—but this is *all—everything*—then with devoutest prayer that if not to meet here, we shall meet in that great throng who have gone up through great tribulation, Let me Remain,

Your Junior Brother,

THOMAS T. HEATH.

[Stamped in paper]: Thos. T. Heath, Attorney At Law, Cincinnati.

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J. A. COPELAND TO ADDISON W. HALBERT.

[Envelope] [MS.] Mr. Addison W. Halbert, Oberlin, Ohio.

[Endorsed]: Copeland. Should'nt go.

Charleston, Dec. 10, 1859.

Friend Halbert:

I take my pen in hand to pen you a few lines in answer to your kind and affectionate letter of 5 Inst.

Well dear friend I am happy that I can say to you that I am well both in body and mind. It is true that placed in the position that I am that it seames almost imposable to me to pen such a letter as I should. But although this is the case I will try to pen a few words of perhaps som interest to you.

Your kind letter came to me bringing such pleasure as a traveler across som drery deasert feel when for many long day he has been traveling without water to quench his thirst and to cool his parched lips. I was happy to hear you was well and and that though I am confined within the walls of a prison and that under sentence of death, you have not forgotten me. Ah friend, it is true that I am now under sentence of death and am to die on the 16 of this month (perhaps before you get this) and that upon the gallows and for doing what, for what crime or crimes am I to die, is it for som black hearted crime, is becaus I have dipt my hand in my brothers blood that I am to be hung, not at all, for what is it then? No, it is for obeying the commandment of my God in doing to others as I would have them do to me. It is because I have attempted to assist in giving that freedom to at least a few of my poor and enslaved brethrin who has been most foully and unjustly deprived of their liberty, by cruel and unjust men, but you are too well acquainted with all of the circumstances for me to add more on this point.

You ask me to tell you about poor Leary. Well, when we came to the Ferry we were put under the command Capt. Kaga and sent about half a mile from the bridg where Capt. Brown and men were station, to Hall's Rifle Factory, this was about

10 o'clock at night. we remain there untill Monday about 2 O'clock. P. M. waiting for orders from Cap. Brown without receiving any, at this we discovered that we were being surrounded by men when Capt. Kaga give orders to leave the building and make our escape, which we accordingly did, but upon getting in the road at the back of the building we had occupied we discovered that our only means of escape if any was to cross the Shandore river, which we tried to cross. on entering the river we turned and fired one round at those who had by this time opened a hot fire on us from all sides. Capt. Kaga succeeded in getting about two thirds across the river when he was shot through the head and sank beneath the river. the who fire of at least fifty men was then turned upon poor Leary and myself, when he being next to Kaga and in advance of me about ten or twelve feet, saw that there was no possible chance of escape left us, got up on a stone that was near him and turned his back on the side of the river to which we were trying escape and was shot through the body, but did not die untill about ten hours afterward as I have been informed since I have been in jail. At the time Leary was shot I succeeded in getting above some stones that were just above me in the river and floated down behind them and remain so untill thought that we were all killed, when some of them coming out to where Leary was discovered me and I was pulled up out of the water with the intention of being shot, but some of those that were present not being such cowards as to want to kill a man when disarmed and a prisoner, prevented it. When I was taken to the Charstown jail where I have been ever since as you full well know. And now dear friend, I will write but a few words more and I must close my correspondence with you forever on this earth, which I hope may resume in heaven where it will never be again interrupted. Give my love to you mother and brothers and my mother, father, &c., and to all my friends. so Good by dear friend, serve you God and meet me in heaven. I remain,

Yours now and forever,

JOHN A. COPELAND.

## R. WASHINGTON TO ANDREW HUNTER.

[Envelope] [MS.] Andrew Hunter, Esq., Charlestown, Virginia.

[Endorsed]: R. Washington. Detective.

Rutland, Vermont, Novr., 18th, 1859, 10.30 P. M.

Andrew Hunter, Esq.:

Dear Sir,—I have been suddenly call off to Montreal to attend to a matter in which I had been engaged previous to my visiting you. I have however arraigned with my partners Mess. Matsell and Mackellar to attend to any matter that interest *Our Cause* during my absence which will only be for two or three days. I am keeping three of my organs in readiness to take advantage of what comes in my way. I regret to say that there is a very bad state of feeling existing in this section judging from the talk of the persons on the train, but its only talk. For they say if John Brown is Hung that there are plenty more John Browns I tell them no, only in talk. But I tell them if there is I pity them if they try it on even if there is a thousand of them. These Vermonters profess to worship the name of Liberty but its only in name, for the talk Treason in saying they go for a dissolution of the Union sooner than slavery should exist, and that they can do without the south. What you War-mounters do without the south when it comes to that you'l find the south extends farther north and nearer to the Blue Mountains than you have any idea of. Its only talk, there aint any more John Browns for some week to come. I hope to be in Montreal to-morrow afternoon and will be Bobbing around, perhaps I may tumble to something and if I do I will make a note of it.

Very respectfully,

R. WASHINGTON.

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—— TO SHERIFF OF JEFFERSON COUNTY.

[Endorsed]: Anonymous Warning.

Yellow Springs, O., Nov. 22nd, 1859.

To the Sheriff of Jefferson Co.

Dear Sir,—Be very careful and watch closely every stranger

that appears in your town until after the hanging of Brown for there has an expedition formed in this county, especially at Xenia and in Springfield, Clark Co., to rescue old Brown. They have also in their league persons from the neighborhood of Urbanna, Columbus, Cleveland and Circinnati; they are all determined and strong willed men of the true Abolition stamp, who will sacrifice life and property to save "the noble John Brown," as they call him. I am not informed what the number will be but it will be large. The movement will be made in the following manner and for all I know is very probably going on at this moment. Persons are to start from all these places separately and to arrive in Charlestown at different times and by different routes, coming as strangers urged by curiosity to see the execution of Brown. Some of these will have negroes with them travelling as servants so as to be able to have as many present as possible.

They think this can be done without suspicion because there will be such a number of strangers present at the execution. Of course they have arrangements made which are to carry off Brown and his confederates if possible by strategy but if it cannot be done in this way they will strike a bold and decisive blow and retreat in a body until they can reach a free state and then to scatter, they think that they will surprise everybody so that no resistance will be made. This effort will be made about the 30th of Nov. or 1st of Dec., they will not wait for night but will make the attack if one is necessary at the first favorable opportunity either at night or day.

Do not think because this letter has no signature that it is not to be relied on, for it is, if my name should be signed there are persons who will kill me here so I dare not do it, the circumstances under which I write as it is are precarious.

Heed this letter if you wish to see the law take its course. If you do not listen to it the consequences may be bad both for your state and the Union. I am satisfied that in writing this letter I have done my duty, both to you and to *humanity*. This is all I know, to tell how I discovered it would reveal myself so believe this letter to come from one who favors law and order.

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To the Sheriff of Jefferson Co., Va.

## C. CAMP TO COL. A. M. BARBOUR.

[Envelope] [MS.] Col. A. M. Barbour, Supt. for Government, Harper's Ferry.

Private. Per Politeness Conductor Express.

[Endorsed]: Detective.

Wheeling, Nov. 22, 1859,  
Tuesday A. M., 5 O'clock.

Col. A. M. Barbour, Harpers Ferry, Va.

Dr. Sir,—I came in this morning thoroughly knocked up and as it is too early to find Gen. Feeny I hasten to write you concerning what I have gleaned on my way and which you will communicate to Gov. Wise. A man got on the train at some point near Cumberland and while on the train he got into conversation with a brakeman on the forward seat next the door; he made enquiries about Bellair, how far it was from Zanesville, how soon he could reach there if he stopped on the road and took the Express train, after getting his information he resumed his original seat near the stove and when we stopped for supper at Peidmont, left the train bag & baggage. This is enough for me, if he comes on he will not be missed. I go into Ohio immediately. You may rest assured if the attack is made they will rendezvous in the mountains and assemble by train & troop when the time comes and if an attack is made the march will be on Saturday night & Sunday morning. I do not believe in an attempt at rescue at the execution.

I am marking cards for a living. "The renowned & only original National Card Writer begs leave to offer to the public," &C. I send you copy.

Yours Cordially,

C. CAMP.

I send this to you as Gov. Wise letter's produce enquiries.

C.

## A. J. SNOW TO JOHN BROWN.

Breeksville, Cuyahoga Co., Ohio, Nov. 19, '59.

Friend Brown:

being an old neighbor of yours and presuming that you are not very pleasantly situated, thought I would drop to your address a few lines to let you know the state of feeling generally in this section of country. Well, then, firstly, we consider that you have broken the laws of the land and are guilty unto death, you engaged in a perilous expedition to free a down trodden people and failed, and are therefore guilty and by law ought to die, the same would have been the case with Hancock and all the signers of the declaration of Independence. But I must liken your case more particularly to Lafayette, who periled his life, without hope or wish of reward, for freedom. Now I don't want you to understand me as sympathising with you in an attempt to raise rebellion among or run off slaves, for I do not, but think that taking slaves from their *owners*, excuse me, I mean *masters*, is as bad as taking horses from their owners, I mean by law, but still I think that if any man, any white man, or at least any free white man, would at all be justifiable in raising rebellion among, or running off slaves, it would be you, for the injuries that you received in Kansas would justify almost anything. Now the only sympathy that I have with you in this affair is, that you are an agitator, for all great evils, whether Civil, Religious or Political must be strongly agitated before they will be done away. Now I consider American slavery the worst slavery that ever existed, for it is the most abject slavery, amongst the most free and enlightened people that ever lived. And we of the north as a nation have to participate in this great evil, i. e., in the stigma of it. Would to God that there was a peaceable dissolution of the free and slave states of this Union.

I said that American slavery was the worst slavery that ever existed. I will take that back, for I consider slavery of the mind worse than slavery of the body, therefore the slavery of priestcraft is worse than the bodily slavery of the southern states of this union. The minister claiming to be from god, who comes before the people with his sanctimonious face, and says,



claiming it to be the word of God, "slaves obey your masters," is a worse man than the slave owner who with whip in hand says to his slave, damn you, do as I tell you.

But to return to your particular case. I will here say that there will be built in this section a respectable monument to the memory of "Old John Brown," the great slavery agitator, "Old Brown," of Kansas, "Osawatamie Brown," and in after years your name will be coupled with those that have been amongst the foremost in all great reforms.—Stephen *Arnold* Douglas is also a great Slavery agitator but for an entirely different purpose, and his name is becoming even now a byword and a reproach and is contemptuously coupled with Benedict Arnold and ought to be treated by all highminded men as the Earl of Balcarras treated that traitor.—Decatur is lauded to the highest degree for liberating a few slaves at Tripoli and making them renounce their system of slavery, while James Buchanan is considered worse than a bandit chieftain for his attempt to extend the bounds of slavery into Kansas—and many there are who wish that John Brown and James Buchanan had to change places. The Harpers Ferry affair is strengthening the Republican party very materially. With a strong sympathy for the cause of freedom every where, I subscribe myself,

Yours truly,

A. J. SNOW.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

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### SOME COLONIAL LETTERS.

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This Society has been recently presented with copies of several letters between members of the Carter and Byrd families and some of their friends. The originals of these were among the large and valuable collection of family papers at "Oakland," Cumberland county, the old seat of the Cocke family, and were probably destroyed in the fire which consumed that old house.

Unfortunately some of the sheets of these copies were lost before they were given to the Society; but as family letters of